



PATENT  
(5181-91401/P6357)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/872,360  
Filed: May 31, 2001  
Inventor(s):  
Kan, et al.

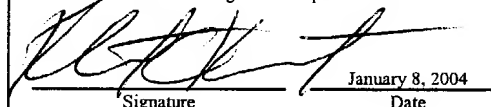
§ Examiner: Unknown  
§ Group/Art Unit: 2171  
§ Atty. Dkt. No: 5181-91401  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§

Title: **DISTRIBUTED  
INFORMATION  
DISCOVERY**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Robert C. Kowert

Name of Registered Representative



Signature

January 8, 2004

Date

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

MAR 30 2004

Sir:

Technology Center 2100

Applicant requests consideration of ☒ the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or ☐ the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- a. ☐ within 3 months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);  
☐ within 3 months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an International application;  
☒ before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or  
☐ before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.
- b. ☐ after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus: ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or ☐ a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

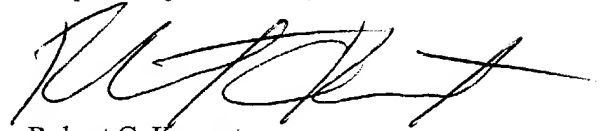
- c. ☐ after the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus: the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.
2. It is hereby certified:
- ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
3. ☒ Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. applications, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:
- U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/106,731 (5181-93100)  
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/106,600 (5181-93200)  
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/106,604 (5181-92900)  
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/106,601 (5181-93400)  
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/106,398 (5181-93000)
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449:
- ☐ reference is made to an English language translation submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s) \_\_\_\_\_, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:
5. ☐ Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:
6. ☐ Also enclosed is a copy of a foreign search report citing these references.
7. ☐ The listed documents were brought to the attention of the Applicant(s) after payment of the issue fee in the captioned case. The documents were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure

Statement. Applicant(s) request this Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 be placed in the file of the captioned application.

8. ☐ Applicant(s) requests that the Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 and references, which are being filed before the grant of the patent and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i), be placed in the file of the captioned application.

If any required fees are missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5181-91401/RCK.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert C. Kowert  
Reg. No. 39,255  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

MEYERTONS, HOOD, KIVLIN, KOWERT & GOETZEL, P.C.  
P. O. Box 398  
Austin, Texas 78767  
(512) 853-8800

Date: January 8, 2004

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

**Form PTO-1449** (modified)

List of Patents and Publications

For Applicant's Information

Disclosure Statement

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DKT. NO. 5181-91401

APPLICANT: Kan, et al.

FILING DATE: May 31, 2001

SERIAL NO. 09/872,360

GROUP: 2171

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	C1	6,161,102	12/12/00	Yanagihara, et al.			
	C2	6,070,158	5/30/200	Kirsch, et al.			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO
	C3	829 811	3/18/98	EP			
	C4	00/62264	10/19/00	WO			

**OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**


EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the patent owner.

Information Disclosure Statement--PTO 1449 (modified)

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**



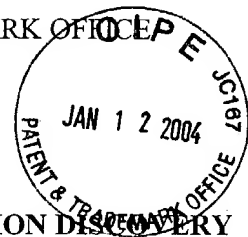
RECEIVED

MAR 30 2004

Technology Center 2100

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR(S):	Kan, et al.
ASSIGNEE:	Sun Microsystems, Inc.
SERIAL NO.:	09/872,360
FILING DATE:	May 31, 2001
TITLE:	<b>DISTRIBUTED INFORMATION DISCOVERY</b>



ATTORNEY DOCKET: 5181-91401/P6357

The date stamp of the mail room of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office hereon will acknowledge receipt of the attached 1) Information Disclosure Statement w/accompanying Form PTO-1449 and references C1-C4; 2) Copies of specifications references in paragraph three; and 3) Return Postcard.

RCK\dmf

Via First Class Mail

date: January 8, 2004

BEST AVAILABLE COPY